

# Editorial

Phillip Corbett suffered a “painful and disturbing” illness from which there was eventual delivery, “perhaps by that most mysterious force that has been called Grace.” He calls his piece, “Psychodrama of an illness.” Psychodramatic sensibilities also infuse Yehoshua’s reflection on his “life lived backwards,” demonstrating how a quality life is being realized in older age. Further creative innovations of the psychodramatic method are offered by Colin Martin and presented in a tribute piece to him.

Diana Jones, Chris Hill and Chris Hosking reflect on psychodrama and leadership, stimulated by the positive responses to Diana’s book *Leadership Material: How personal experience shapes executive presence*. Philippa van Kuilenburg describes her application of psychodrama in family violence work. Hamish Brown has a reverie on reading *The Book of Evan*. Of the time when he was being supervised by Evan Sherrard, Hamish reflects: “I always felt like I could rely on something within myself even though I also felt uncertain a lot of the time. I’m sure this balance of confidence and uncertainty were partly a result of Evan’s relationship with me.”

Throughout the work presented here, there is a willingness to be in the unknown, a readiness to surrender the personality, to loosen the grip of solution seeking and power over. Conditions are created for things to be engaged with as they are. The psychodramatic stage invites all the forces to be present: confidence and uncertainty, the new and the conserved, wellbeing and sickness. The individual and the group co-exist without either having to have ultimate primacy.

When the physical life enters the last stages, many things that have been agglutinated into a personality wither and drop away. There may be no interest left in ego maintenance. Memory, reasoning, and even the exercising of choice, may be of little interest. But when kindness comes from the other, it is known and received. The heart shines forth. It does appear love wins out. That’s what the evidence shows.

Thank you to all the contributors, for the gifts of yourselves and your lives. Our world is richer because you are in it.

Philip D. Carter, editor